

Program B: Field Services

Program Authorization: R.S. 15:574.2-15:574.20 and R.S. 401-409

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The mission of the Field Services Program is to supervise adult offenders who are released on probation or parole.

The goals of the Field Services Program are:

1. Protect public safety by providing efficient and effective control and supervision of offenders.
2. Facilitate the adjustment and reintegration of offenders into society.
3. Strive to comply with statutory workload limits.

The Field Services Program provides skilled supervision of remanded clients; supplies competent investigative reports involved with sentencing, release, and clemency; and fulfills extradition requirements. Supervision is also exercised over three contract work release centers and the intensive parole cases in the IMPACT program. The division is in charge of collecting various criminal justice funds, supervision fees, victim's restitution, and so forth. Services are provided through offices located in Alexandria, Amite, Baton Rouge, Chalmette, Clinton, Covington, Harvey, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Leesville, Minden, Monroe, Natchitoches, New Iberia, New Orleans-West, New Orleans-East, Port Allen (West Baton Rouge), Shreveport, Tallulah, Thibodaux, and Ville Platte.

According to a 1999 Legislative Fiscal Office survey, Louisiana has the fifth highest caseload per agent among southern and south central states. Caseload is not the same as workload. Workload considers not only the number of cases but the level of supervision and number of contacts as well. Although Louisiana law (R.S. 15:571.20) requires a 50-unit workload for adult probation and parole officers, that workload level has been routinely exceeded in many field offices. Act 394 of 1995 requires that, beginning July 1, 1995, the number of work units assigned to each probation and parole specialist performing supervisory and investigative functions be reduced until the number of work units assigned does not exceed fifty. Act 394 further specifies that, beginning July 1, 1997, the department shall not assign more than 50 work units to any probation and parole specialist. However, this goal is contingent upon the availability of funding.

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Unless otherwise indicated, all objectives are to be accomplished during or by the end of FY 2000-2001. Performance indicators are made up of two parts: name and value. The indicator name describes what is being measured. The indicator value is the numeric value or level achieved within a given measurement period. For budgeting purposes, performance indicator values are shown for the prior fiscal year, the current fiscal year, and alternative funding scenarios (continuation budget level and Executive Budget recommendation level) for the ensuing fiscal year (the fiscal year of the budget document).

1.(KEY) To maximize the number of investigations and provide services in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

Strategic Link: This operational objective is related to the program's Strategic Goal I: *To provide efficient and effective control, supervision, and reintegration of offenders into society while, at the same time, striving to comply with statutory workload limits.*

Louisiana: Vision 2020 Link: This operational objective is related to Vision 2020 objective 3.3: *To have safe homes, schools, and streets throughout the state.*

Children's Cabinet Link: Not applicable

Other Link(s): Not applicable

L E V E L	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR NAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VALUES					
		YEAREND PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 1999-2000	ACTUAL YEAREND PERFORMANCE FY 1999-2000	ACT 11 PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2000-2001	EXISTING PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2000-2001	AT CONTINUATION BUDGET LEVEL FY 2001-2002	AT RECOMMENDED BUDGET LEVEL FY 2001-2002
K	Total number of investigations performed	44,631	42,015	44,700	44,700	45,147	45,147
S	Number of presentence investigations ¹	4,856	2,996	3,308	3,308	3,341	3,341
S	Number of pre-parole investigations ²	4,010	3,184	4,012	4,012	4,052	4,052
S	Number of post-sentence investigations ³	6,336	5,347	5,868	5,868	5,927	5,927
S	Number of pre-exit / work release investigations ⁴	77	39	72	72	73	73
S	Number of clemency investigations ⁵	254	253	440	440	444	444
S	Number of transfer investigations ⁶	7,709	7,060	7,632	7,632	7,708	7,708
S	Number of supervision assistance requests ⁷	21,389	23,136	23,368	23,368	23,602	23,602
K	Average workload per agent (work units) ⁸	73	55	55	55	55 ⁹	55 ⁹
K	Average caseload per agent (number of offenders)	Not applicable	103	Not applicable	106	109	109
K	Average number of offenders under supervision	55,544	55,948	58,384	58,384	58,967	58,967
K	Average number of offenders under electronic surveillance	120	95	200	200	200	200

¹ Investigations completed by field staff for the sentencing judge to assist in the sentencing decision making process.

² Investigations completed by field staff for the Parole Board to assist in the granting or denying of parole decision making process.

³ Investigations completed by field staff after the judge has imposed sentencednce to assist in classification and rehabilitation of the offender.

- ⁴ Investigations completed by field staff for the Parole Board to assist in the granting or denying of entrance into a work release program.
- ⁵ Investigations completed by field staff for the Governor and/or the Pardon Board to assist in the granting or denying of the offenders requested relief.
- ⁶ Investigations completed by field staff and sent to other states for the purpose of either transferring a Louisiana case out of state or the acceptance of another state's case for supervision in Louisiana.
- ⁷ Investigations completed by field staff of one district (within the State of Louisiana) to another district (within the State of Louisiana) for the purpose of transferring cases, securing information, and securing any assistance that the requesting district may need.
- ⁸ Workload considers not only the number of cases but the level of supervision and number of contacts as well.
- ⁹ Probation & Parole intends to introduce legislation to amend R.S. 15:571.20 and Act 394 of 1995 to change workload measure requirements to caseload measures.

GENERAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION: COMPARISON OF TRENDS IN PROBATION AND PAROLE CASELOADS, LOUISIANA AND SOUTHERN REGION			
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1998-99	PERCENT CHANGE 1999 - 2000	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1999-00
Number of offenders under supervision - Southern Region	1,201,969	-4.0%	1,159,688
Number of offenders under supervision - Louisiana	55,649	1.0%	55,994
Average caseload (Number of Offenders Per Agent) - Southern Region	85.3	-14.0%	73.3
Average caseload (Number of Offenders Per Agent) - Louisiana	103.2	0.0%	103.7

Source: *Adult Correctional Systems: A Comparative Data Report Submitted to the Fiscal Affairs and Government Operations Committee*, Southern Legislative Conference, Council of State Governments, October 2000.

**GENERAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION: PROBATION AND PAROLE
CASELOADS IN SOUTHERN REGION, FY 1999-2000**

STATE	NUMBER OF OFFENDERS SUPERVISED	NUMBER OF PROBATION AND PAROLE AGENTS	NUMBER OF OFFENDERS PER AGENT
Alabama ¹	24296	196	124.0
Arkansas ¹	38598	252	153.2
Florida	149447	3051	49.0
Georgia ¹	139151 ²	844	164.9
Kentucky	16699	389	42.9
Louisiana	55994	540	103.7
Maryland ¹	52807	601	87.9
Mississippi	11423	222	51.5
Missouri	62026	1216	51.0
North Carolina	111784	1984	56.3
Oklahoma	30676	297	103.3
South Carolina ¹	33450	600	55.8
Tennessee	39367	622	63.3
Texas	354417	4358	81.3
Virginia	38017	614	61.9
West Virginia	1536	30	51.2
AVERAGE	1159688	15816	73.3

¹ Probation and Parole services are provided by a separate agency.

² Figure is only for probationers and does not include parolees.

SOURCE: *Adult Correctional Systems: A Comparative Data Report Submitted to the Fiscal Affairs and Government Operations Committee*, Southern Legislative Conference, Council of State Governments, October 2000.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION FOR THE PROGRAM

Field Services						
	ACTUAL	ACT 11	EXISTING	CONTINUATION	RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED
	1999- 2000	2000 - 2001	2000 - 2001	2001 - 2002	2001 - 2002	OVER/(UNDER)
						EXISTING
MEANS OF FINANCING:						
STATE GENERAL FUND (Direct)	\$24,590,594	\$24,435,618	\$25,384,677	\$27,510,384	\$26,619,853	\$1,235,176
STATE GENERAL FUND BY:						
Interagency Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees & Self-gen. Revenues	9,784,990	9,908,435	9,908,435	9,908,435	10,408,435	500,000
Statutory Dedications	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interim Emergency Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING	\$34,375,584	\$34,344,053	\$35,293,112	\$37,418,819	\$37,028,288	\$1,735,176
EXPENDITURES & REQUEST:						
Salaries	\$23,888,398	\$23,383,937	\$24,883,110	\$25,869,938	\$26,861,438	\$1,978,328
Other Compensation	35,319	901,645	23,945	23,945	23,945	0
Related Benefits	3,906,287	4,020,711	4,272,561	4,415,118	4,532,205	259,644
Total Operating Expenses	4,719,678	4,897,637	4,914,358	4,998,041	4,875,637	(38,721)
Professional Services	473,498	405,320	405,320	413,426	405,320	0
Total Other Charges	312,931	329,551	329,551	329,551	329,743	192
Total Acq. & Major Repairs	1,039,473	405,252	464,267	1,368,800	0	(464,267)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND REQUEST	\$34,375,584	\$34,344,053	\$35,293,112	\$37,418,819	\$37,028,288	\$1,735,176
AUTHORIZED FULL-TIME						
EQUIVALENTS: Classified	827	812	812	812	803	(9)
Unclassified	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	827	812	812	812	803	(9)

SOURCE OF FUNDING

This program is funded with State General Fund and Fees and Self-generated Revenues. The Fees and Self-generated Revenues are derived from fees collected from those individuals who are on probation and parole to partially reimburse the agency for the cost of their supervision.

ANALYSIS OF RECOMMENDATION

GENERAL FUND	TOTAL	T.O.	DESCRIPTION
\$24,435,618	\$34,344,053	812	ACT 11 FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001
			BA-7 TRANSACTIONS:
\$873,323	\$873,323	0	Pay increase for Correctional Security Officers and Probation and Parole Officers
\$75,736	\$75,736	0	Carry Forward for Operating Supplies and Acquisitions
\$25,384,677	\$35,293,112	812	EXISTING OPERATING BUDGET – December 15, 2000
\$567,503	\$567,503	0	Annualization of FY 2000-2001 Classified State Employees Merit Increase
\$561,602	\$561,602	0	Classified State Employees Merit Increases for FY 2001 -2002
(\$405,252)	(\$405,252)	0	Non-Recurring Acquisitions & Major Repairs
(\$75,736)	(\$75,736)	0	Non-Recurring Carry Forwards
\$13,482	\$13,482	0	Rent in State-Owned Buildings
(\$13,290)	(\$13,290)	0	Maintenance of State-Owned Buildings
(\$489,641)	(\$489,641)	(15)	Attrition Adjustment
(\$96,048)	(\$96,048)	(2)	Personnel Reductions
\$1,694,556	\$1,694,556	0	Other Adjustments - Provides \$200/month pay increase for Correctional Security Officers and Probation and Parole Officers
(\$22,000)	(\$22,000)	0	Other Adjustments - Reduction in Operating Expenses
\$0	\$0	8	Other Technical Adjustments - Transfer of eight (8) positions from Jetson Correctional Center for Youth reflect positions in the appropriate agency
(\$500,000)	\$0	0	Net Means Of Financing Substitutions -
\$26,619,853	\$37,028,288	803	GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED

The total means of financing for this program is recommended at 104.9% of the existing operating budget. It represents 73.6% of the total request (\$50,326,656) for this program. The decrease in State General Fund is primarily due its replacement with Fees and Self-generated Revenues to properly reflect the projected collection of Probation and Parole Supervision Fees. An increase is also reflected to fund a pay increase for Probation and Parole Officers.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

\$355,320	Transfer America, Inc.; contract to return prisoners to Louisiana
\$50,000	Professional Services contract for coordinating the Sex Offender Program

\$405,320 TOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

OTHER CHARGES

\$234,902	Rent in state-owned buildings
\$28,805	User fee for radio system - Department of Public Safety
\$6,265	Purchase of gasoline from State Police
\$59,579	Maintenance of State Buildings

\$329,551 TOTAL INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS

ACQUISITIONS AND MAJOR REPAIRS

This program does not have funding for Acquisitions and Major Repairs for Fiscal Year 2001-2002.